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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/895,084	06/29/2001	Jason Benfield	AUS920010375US1	6717
7590	09/24/2004		EXAMINER	
Joseph R. Burwell Law Office of Joseph R. Burwell P.O. Box 28022 Austin, TX 78755-8022			AHMED, FAROOQUE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2157	

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/895,084	BENFIELD ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
	Farooque Ahmed	2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/29/01.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed 06/29/2001. Claims 1-30 are pending. Claims 1-30 Represent METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGEMENT OF LOGICAL NETWORKS FOR MULTIPLE CUSTOMERS WITHIN A NETWORK MANAGEMENT FQAMEWORK

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-8,11-18,21-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Hamner et al. US Patent No 5960439.

Hamner teaches the invention substantially as claimed includes managing a computer network where logical devices where management tasks are performable upon the devices (See abstract).

As to claim 1, Hamner teaches a method of a management of a distributed data processing system, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf plurality of management customers, the method comprising:

representing the distributed data processing system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a logical organization network-related objects (see abstract figs 1-2a, 2b, col 3 lines 40 –67 hamner disclosed data based represent network map wherein view logical devices and groups and their task).

associating each scope with a management customer, wherein each scope is uniquely assigned a management customer, wherein each scope is uniquely associated with a set configuration parameters for managing each scope;(see abstract, figs 1, -2a, 2b, col 4, Hamner disclosed Network map in logical view devices can be organized in device groups, which user definable)

managing the distributed data processing system as set logical networks, wherein a logical network comprises a set of scopes, uniquely assigned to a management customer (see fig 1-3 col 5; col 7, Hanmer disclosed database provide logical structure of network devices which are definable on based user)

allowing an administrative user to dynamically reconfigure logical networks within the distributed data processing system (see col 5 lines 25-30, Hanmer disclosed In logical view where Administrator can arrange derives in different way to provide most useful way to present network organization).

In reference to claim 2, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 1, where dynamically reconfiguring the distributed data processing system to introduce a new scope by logically dividing a pre-existing scope.(See fig 2A,2B,col 4, Humner disclosed Network map in logical view where devices can be organized into various device groups).

In reference to claim 3, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 2, wherein the new scope is introduced without physically introducing a new network, system, or endpoint to the distributed data processing system (See col 7 lines 43-76; col 8-1-45, Hamner disclosed In the database network graph where new nodes are inserted.)

In reference to claim 4, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 1, wherein dynamically reconfiguring the distributed data processing system by logically moving scope between management customers (see col 5 lines 36-39; col 7 lines 1-40, Hamner disclosed determined periodically to user logical configuration of the network and store configuration on the database).

In reference to claim 5,15,25 Hamner teaches the method as in claim 1, wherein

dynamically reconfiguring the distributed data processing system to introduce a new management customer (see col 8-1-45, Hamner disclosed In the database (PNM) where new nodes are inserted.)

In reference to claim 6, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 5, wherein customer is introduced without physically introducing a new network, system, endpoint the distributed data processing system.(see col Hanmer disclosed In the PNM manger on a front end of database network graph where new nodes are inserted).

In reference to claim 7, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 1, wherein

dynamically discovering endpoints, systems, networks within the distributed data processing system; (See col 7 lines 43-76; col 8-1-45, Hanmer disclosed discovery manger maintained information about network graph where new nodes are inserted).

correspondingly representing endpoints, systems, networks the distributed data processing system as a set of endpoint objects, system objects, and network objects (see fig 5 col 7 lines 1-40, Hanmer disclosed network database where objects has objects types or multiple links).

logically organizing the endpoint objects, system and network objects within set of scopes, wherein each system object, and each network object is uniquely assigned to a scope such that scopes do not logically overlap. (See fig 1-5 col 7 lines1-40, Hanmer disclosed database where physical components and logical component link to each other in table).

In reference to claim 8, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 7, wherein dynamic discovery is limited to a scope assigned to a particular management customer. (See Figs 1-4, col 6 lines 50-67; col 6 lines 1-30, Humner disclosed network can be polled automatically where discover manger where user can be user defined).

Claims 11-18,21-28 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1-8 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

4. Claims 9-10,19,20,29,30, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamner et al. US Patent No. 5960439 in view of Srinivasan et al. (US Patent No.5548506 hereinafter.

Hamner teaches the invention substantially as claimed includes managing a computer network where logical devices where management tasks are performable upon the devices (See abstract).

In reference to claim 9, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 1.

Hamner fails to teach determining whether to allow a reconfiguration operation requested by an administrative user in accordance with security authorization parameters associated with an administrative user.

However Srinivasan teach (Auto Multi Project server software) where separate files containing authorization where project leader create new project required authorization (See col 7 lines 120-30).

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify Hanmer in the view of Srinivasan add security authorization on logical view in network map database to allow authorization to administrator.

In reference to claim 10, Hamner teaches the method as in claim 1, wherein limiting reconfiguration operations requested by an administrative user to scopes assigned to a particular management customer. (See col 5 lines 25-30, Hanmer disclosed In logical view where user definable list and Administrator can arrange devices in different way to provide most useful way to present network organization).

Claims 19,20,29,30 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 9-10 and therefore is rejected for similar reasons.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farooque Ahmed whose telephone number is 703-605-4212. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 to 5:00 If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Farooque Ahmed/Examiner
Art Unit 2157



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER